

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please replace the abstract with the rewritten abstract below:

**--Abstract of the Disclosure**

A circular knitting machine provides sinkers that are moved in an inclined manner in the sinker troughs to position yarn laps and prevent the sinkers from hitting yarn feeding plates. The sinker has a nose section to hold the yarn laps at a horizontal high point to prevent the yarn laps from slipping, and has a throat section which has a horizontal first end surface and a belly section with an inclined second end surface in order to keep the knitting needles and sinkers moving smoothly during a knitting operation. The yarn feeding plate has a dodging edge on a distal end, the dodging edge being formed in a shape corresponding to the movement track of the sinker and having a slanted surface at the front end thereof, so as to avoid hitting the sinker when the sinker is moved in the sinker trough in an inclined manner.--